

[1st August 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether any inquiry, into the charges made by Bangladesh has been made by Government; and

(d) if so, what is the factual position and reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir. Rather, it is the other way round. Bangladesh Government has informed that a full investigation would be carried out into the incident of killing of BSF Jawans by Bangladesh Rifles.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Foreigners (Report to Police) Order, 1971

*151. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revived the Foreigners (Report to Police) Order, 1971;

(b) if so, whether there are differences with the Ministry of External Affairs on the revival of the order; and

(c) if so, the nature of the differences stating the implications involved in the implementation of the order, particularly in the case of the foreigners visiting the country from all over the world to participate in seminars etc. organised by Government and private organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) The Foreigners (Report to Police) Order, 1971 has been in operation since 14th December, 1971. For its better enforcement, a need was felt to reiterate it. Accordingly, attention of the public was drawn to the provisions of the said Order, through press releases, in the month of May 2001. The public criticism provoked by such reiteration of the Order led to its review and a decision by the Government to revise it. The revised Order which should be issued shortly, shall cast a duty on every person to notify the nearest police station, within 24 hours, about the presence of a foreigner in his premises if he has reason to

believe that such foreigner has entered the country without valid document(s) or has overstayed.

(b) and (c) There are no differences whatsoever with the Ministry of External Affairs with regard to the said Order. In so far as foreigners visiting the country to participate in seminars, etc. are concerned, they are covered by separate guidelines.

Need for Global look for Indian Textile Industry

*152. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to face the challenges of the rapidly changing world textiles scenario by stressing the need for Indian Textile Industry to consider itself as operating in a global market;

(b) if so, to what extent, the textile industry has changed its course for operating in a global market; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA):
(a) to (c) The Government is fully committed to face the challenges of globalisation by encouraging investments for modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry.

The National Textile Policy-2000 (NT×P-2000), provides an enabling environment to make the domestic textile industry strong enough to face growing global competition. De-reservation of the woven segment of readymade garment sector will allow the industry to achieve desired economies of scale. In order to implement the vision of the NT×P-2000, a "Textile Package" was announced in the Budget 2001-02 to encourage investment in the textile sector. Some of the important provisions of the "Textile Package" are:—

- (i) Customs duty has been reduced from 15% to 5% on 159 specified textile and garment machineries. In addition, 12 important items of machineries including shuttleless looms have also been exempted from additional excise duty.